



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION expressing the support of the
Indiana General Assembly for the Women's Health Platform.

Crosby, Becker, Budak, Welch

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION expressing the support of the Indiana General Assembly for the Women's Health Platform.

Whereas, State government can increase its support for women's health and can make a significant difference in improving the status of women's health;

Whereas, Women are different metabolically, hormonally, and physiologically from men and have different patterns of health and disease, and some diseases are more common in women than in men;

Whereas, Women are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases; more than one in five women have some form of cardiovascular disease and one in two women will have an osteoporosis-related fracture in her lifetime;

Whereas, Women are three times more likely to develop rheumatoid arthritis and two to three times more likely to suffer from depression;

Whereas, Women are less often referred for diagnostic tests and less often treated for heart disease than men;

Whereas, Women, if they are smokers, are 20% to 70% more likely to develop lung cancer and ten times more likely than men to contract HIV during unprotected sex;

Whereas, Women outnumber men three to one in long term care facilities;



Whereas, Women are much more likely to provide health care to family members and to make health care decisions;

Whereas, Women spend two of every three health care dollars;

Whereas, There is abundant evidence that women are undertreated compared to men;

Whereas, There is abundant evidence that women are underrepresented in women's health studies;

Whereas, Although there has been some national attention focused on women's health care issues and some legislative activity by the Congress on access issues, there remains little change in vitally important preventive care and treatment issues;

Whereas, In a recent survey of voters, almost 80% of women and 60% of men favored a Women's Health Care Platform that supports relevant care, relevant research, and relevant education for women; and

Whereas, Nine of ten men and women agree that women have the right to have access to quality treatment, the latest technologies, and appropriate diagnostic tests: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges every state
2 agency, state-chartered institution of learning, or recipient of state
3 grants or funding to take appropriate action to achieve improved and
4 equal access for women to quality health care, including state-of-the-art
5 medical advances and technology; increasing the number of women
6 covered by comprehensive health care insurance, including primary
7 and preventive health care; preventing serious health problems by
8 timely diagnosis and treatment programs; promoting strategies to
9 increase patient access to recommended diagnostic and screening tests,
10 preventive health regimens, and recommended treatments; encouraging
11 unimpeded access to women's specialty health providers; creating and
12 promoting public/private partnerships to develop programs designed to



1 improve the scope and quality of women's health care; improving
2 communications between providers and patients; continuing to expand
3 participation of women in clinical trials; increasing government and
4 private research on women's health issues and the differences between
5 men and women and how they impact quality health care; conducting
6 more health outcome research to demonstrate the value of women's
7 health care interventions and preventive health measures in both the
8 long and short term; expanding medical and nursing school curricula
9 in the area of women's health and education about gender biology;
10 supporting public education campaigns to increase women's awareness
11 about their unique health risks, how to negotiate the complexities of
12 today's health care system, and demand and obtain the best care
13 available; conducting public health campaigns via state and local
14 departments of public health with private sector partners to focus on
15 key women's preventive health issues; urging the establishment of
16 permanent offices of women's health within state government to raise
17 awareness of women's special health care needs and advocate
18 initiatives to address them; fostering development and dissemination
19 of publicly available information on the quality of health care and
20 health outcomes that improve women's ability to choose the best
21 women's health care plan; and expanding state screening programs
22 targeted at lower-income women to include a full range of known risk
23 factors.

24 SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly wishes to
25 commend Women in Government for its leadership and enterprise in
26 bringing to Indiana the appropriate urgency of need and meaningful
27 steps that can be taken to attain the improved and equal access for
28 women to quality health care, technologies and treatments, education
29 of researchers about gender differences, and unimpeded access to
30 women's health providers.

31 SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
32 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to Joy Newton,
33 executive director of Women in Government.

